

GOOD EVENING—or DO YOU REMEMBER—

I was very happy, indeed, over the week-end to receive a letter from Dr. J. W. Grant, now of Dickson City and apparently a former Carbondalean, not only for the kind words he had to say about The News, but also for the interesting memory in the journalistic field which I had never previously heard.

Dr. Grant wrote that:

"It is nearly 40 years since I put away the reporter's pad for the prescription pad and I know that my writing is very much cramped. However, I want to congratulate you on the newsy and interesting paper you are printing for the readers of the Upper Valley.

"I was very much interested in reading recently the 'Do You Remember' department in The News in which there appeared an item about Mr. Patrick Bridget who many years ago conducted a store on Dundaff street near the D. & H. crossing. In reference, the item reminded me of a notice in the Carbondale Leader when that paper was owned and published by Mr. Charles Lathrope and his son, Edward. The item appeared nearly a half century ago and it was in the days when Billy Gritman and Senator Fred Gelder were on the Leader staff. The personal read:

"Patrick Bridget left for New York yesterday to purchase his fall and winter goods."

"Nothing out of the ordinary, but what a lot of publicity it got!

"Charles A. Dana was editor of the New York Sun at the time and a few days after there appeared on the editorial page of that paper the item about Mr. Bridget's visit to New York and directly under it this question. 'Is Patrick Bridget a man or a woman?'

"A few days later the Philadelphia Press (Charles Emory Smith was its editor) printed the item from the Leader and Editor's Dana's query, and added a line under it with the answer 'Yes'.

"At this time the Sun and Press had the largest circulations in the East if not in the nation. Some years after Mr. Smith was named Postmaster General of the country. Dana and Smith were acclaimed as two of the ablest journalists of their times and what a large number of people all over the nation read about dear old Carbondale, Pa., because the Leader carried a three-line item about Mr. Bridget's visit to the big city to buy his fall and winter supplies!

"With best wishes,

John W. Grant, M.D.
804 Boulevard Ave.,
Dickson City, Pa.

"P. S. Give my best regards to Miss Rashleigh."

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